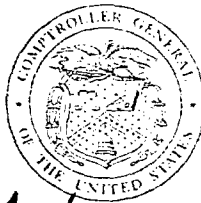


DECISION



THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

[Protest Alleging Ambiguities in IFB Specifications] 10,059

FILE: B-194051

DATE: May 8, 1979

MATTER OF: Robert M. Meyers, d/b/a
Parkdale Building Maintenance

DIGEST:

DL601512

Requirement in specification for general janitorial services is not objectionable as too indefinite for bidding purposes merely because it does not purport to be all inclusive.

DL601513

Robert M. Meyers, d/b/a Parkdale Building Maintenance (Parkdale) protests alleged ambiguities in the specifications of invitation for bids (IFB) No. DXCW68-79-B-0013, issued by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla, Washington (Army) for janitorial services. Parkdale asserts that certain specifications are ambiguous and requests that maximum requirements be specified and that certain statements be removed.

Specifications 19.4 and 20 provided as follows (the offensive language is underlined):

"19.4 A floor and window schedule is attached. The schedule lists all of the floors and windows to be serviced under this contract. This schedule lists the minimum requirements. Baseboards shall be considered to be part of the floor. Any of the work listed in this contract shall be performed and paid for at times not scheduled if and when deemed necessary by the Contracting Officer's Representative.

"20 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS. Many of the areas listed on the attached floor schedule will require other janitorial services. These services include, but are not limited to, the following minimum requirements.

205190

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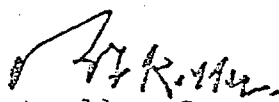
(5) Perform all other duties necessary and in conjunction with the requirements listed above which are ordinarily furnished to the public under similar services."

The protester argues that it cannot ascertain the maximum effort required under these specifications and that this adversely affects its ability to bid.

In response to the protest, the Army amended the specifications by removing the reference in paragraph 19.4 to minimum requirements. Also, the statement that the general requirements in paragraph 20 were not limited to the minimum requirements has been eliminated and the requirement in paragraph (5) regarding other unspecified duties "ordinarily furnished to the public under similar services" has been deleted.

The protester states that these changes "do not reflect any correction of the complaint as filed * * *." In any event, specifications covering general requirements for janitorial services are not objectionable as too indefinite for bidding purposes merely because the specifications are not all inclusive. It is not always feasible to anticipate and articulate all requirements for general janitorial services which may arise and are normally performed under such contracts.

/The protest is denied./


Deputy Comptroller General
of the United States